

**Cherwell District Council Business Plan : 2014/2015
Corporate Pledges - Quarter 2**

Ref	Objective/Measure Definition	Quarter 1 30/06/2014	Quarter 2 30/09/2014	Direction of Travel	Comments on Performance
A District of Opportunity					
CBP1 2.3	Progress work on the North West Bicester exemplar site	G	G	⇒	A start on site for the Phase 1 Exemplar was achieved at the end of April 2014, good progress is being made on the infrastructure and foundations for the first houses. First residential occupancies expected in June 2015
CBP1 2.4	Delivery in North West Bicester of the Eco Business Centre	A	A	⇒	An options appraisal is being developed that is also considering how the Eco Business Centre could be combined with the other local centre requirements which need to be delivered by a third party. We are currently reviewing proposals and will be taking a report to the December Executive - the delivery is expected to remain on target.
Safe, Green and Clean					
CBP2 1.1	Maintain a household recycling rate of above 57%	G Actual 62.0% Target 57.0%	G Actual 59.7% Target 57.0%	⇩	Recycling ahead of same period last year (57%) though slightly down on Quarter 1. Some increase in dry recycling however a significant increase in food and garden waste.
CBP2 2.1	Improve local residents' satisfaction with street & environmental cleanliness continuing our successful programme of neighbourhood litter blitzes	G 2013 : 70%	A Actual 68% Target 70% 2014	⇩	2014 satisfaction survey recorded 68% of residents satisfied with street and environmental cleanliness, slightly down on last year's performance of 70% quoted in Quarter 1 column. We are currently working on an action plan regarding the satisfaction survey drop and will be able to report back in detail our intentions by the end of November.
CBP2 2.1a	Undertake 6 neighbourhood blitzes with community involvement	G Actual 1 Target 1	G Actual: 2 Target: 1	⇧	Two neighbourhood blitzes were successfully carried out in Langford Village area in Bicester and Grimsbury area of Banbury. Both were very well received by members of the public who participated in these initiatives. Three have been carried out at the mid year point and therefore on target to deliver 6 in total .
CBP2 3.2	Work with local police and licence holders to ensure our town centres remain safe and vibrant in the evenings	G	G	⇒	Cherwell Safer Communities Partnership (CSCP) continues to fund CDC Anti-Social Behaviour teams' operational initiatives such as late night patrols in licenced premises, joint patrols with Thames Valley Police in ASB hotspots including enforcement of Designated Public Protection Orders (DPPO) within Banbury and Bicester. These initiatives are funded by TVP Police and Crime Commissioner
CBP2 4.1	Maintain the Council's five year commitment to reduce our carbon footprint by 22% by 2016	A	A	⇒	A new Action Plan is currently being developed for 2015 onwards. We are still experiencing issues with commissioning of the biomass boiler at Bicester Leisure. Quarter 2 Data tables unavailable until mid/late November.

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Thriving Communities					
CBP 3 1.1	Deliver 150 units of affordable homes in the district and support opportunities for self build and developing self build skills	G Actual: 30 Target: 30	G Actual: 35 Target: 35	⇒	For the second quarter Cherwell has hit its affordable housing target for 2014-15 and it is expected that next quarters target will also be achieved, well on course for delivering more affordable homes for the district. In this quarter there have been 28 new rented homes and 7 new shared ownership properties for first time buyers.
CBP3 1.1b	Delivery 150 self-build housing projects as part of HCA funded grants programme	A Actual 13 Target 14	G Actual 12 Target 11	⇧	Currently there is a lot of activity on various sites in both Banbury and Bicester. Work is well underway at Newton Close which is providing 21 homes for shared ownership. Purchasers will complete internal works themselves, carpentry, plaster boarding, kitchens, decorating, tiling, floor coverings and landscaping ~ 12 of these are now completed to shell to enable the self builders to start and it is these that are included for this report. In Banbury work has commenced on three empty properties, which are being renovated, St Leonards House, Juniper Court and 2 Broughton Rd. These properties can be purchased with the assistance of an equity loan. They will be finished to a shell stage for purchasers to complete. A discount on the market value will be offered in return. Work has also started on 2 new developments, The Orchard and Calthorpe House. The Orchard is 16 x 2 and 3 bedroom homes for shared ownership and Calthorpe House is 15 apartments for affordable rent. Marketing is currently being done through Help to Buy South, Rightmove, The Council's website and Facebook page. Twitter is also used for posting of programme updates and activity. Further applicants have gone through the training scheme and this will be on-going.
CBP3 2.4	Continue working with partners to provide support to improve the lives and opportunities for the most vulnerable individuals and families in the district, building on Brighter Futures in Banbury Programme	G	G	⇒	The multi agency work targeted at the Brighter Futures wards has continued to supplement the core services provided by key partners. There have been many new initiatives commenced. The Cherwell Community Bank as the local credit union has been increasing its presence locally and is planning for a Sunshine Centre launch. Preparation is also well underway for the second partners engagement event on 3 December 2014, this time discussing the voluntary sector.

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CBP3 2.5	Continue to support skills development, apprenticeships and job clubs in order to help support local employment and reduce the number of young people not in education, employment or training.	G	G	⇨	<p>Organised Banbury Job Fair on 26 Sept which attracted over 242 job seekers and 30 businesses/organisations, generating excellent press coverage and positive feedback from employers and job seekers.</p> <p>Active participation in the Brighter Futures in Banbury programme, including the implementation of a new project to provide additional job club support for the long-term unemployed in Neithrop/Ruscote/Grimsbury. Attended the Connecting Communities event at the Sunshine Centre on 1st August.</p> <p>Help provided to Bicester Food Bank to explore the options for its co-location with Job Club. Urgent assistance also provided to the Bicester Studio School working group to identify a site and develop the curriculum for its opening in Sept 2016.</p> <p>CDC continues to operate its Cherwell Apprenticeship programme - now in its fourth year. Leading by example, CDC worked with Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) to enable and promote the 'Apprenticeships' held in Banbury & Bicester in August 2014</p>
CBP3 2.5a	Contribute to the creation and safeguarding of jobs	G* Actual: 59 Target: 50	G* Actual: 152 Target: 50	⇧	<p>Job Fairs held in Bicester and Banbury, attracted over 100 and 240 job seekers respectively. More employers are seeking help through this service with staff recruitment and partner organisations such as Volunteer Connect, National Careers Service and the College use the clubs as a 'shop window' to provide advice, guidance and work readiness training and support.</p> <p>Weekly Job Clubs continue to be held - alternating between Banbury, Bicester and Kidlington. A total of 703 individual visits by job seekers were been made during the quarter to the job clubs and fairs.</p> <p>Job Seekers Allowance claimant rates fell (improved) to 0.6% (581 people) in Cherwell during August 2014. However, redundancies do occur and in September for example Heraeus Alba announced the planned closure in December 2014 of its UK operation in Banbury. 30 of its staff attended the Banbury Job Fair in the same week as the announcement and all are expected to find work seamlessly through the support being offered by the company and - though notification by CDC - Job Centre Plus regional resources.</p> <p>The creation of 152 jobs this quarter reflects those that the Council has had a direct involvement in enabling - through helping companies in job clubs and fairs (such as Paterson Health Care), by providing advice and information (e.g. to Wirth Research) or by working in partnership (e.g. with Banbury & Bicester College)</p>

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Sound Budgets and Customer Focussed Council					
CBP4 1.1	Extend the Joint Working Programme to include new methods of service delivery and more services delivered in partnership	G	G	⇒	A detailed options appraisal is currently being developed to explore alternative ways of delivering services. Options and recommendations will be presented to the council meeting in December for Members to set out a strategy for the governance of joint working
CBP4 3.1	Continue to improve our website, and implement additional online services for customers	A	G	↑	One further service – Excess Waste – is now available online with others being considered. During Quarter 3, focus will be on SOCITM assessment and reviewing the Housing Pages on the website to meet the external assessment.
CBP4 4.2	Deliver the savings targets £500,000 within the agreed timescales.	G	G	⇒	Savings will be delivered as part of the budget setting process and reported to Budget Planning Committee.